Form S-1: Sage-Grouse Site-Scale Seasonal Habitat Data Summary Directions

- 1. Use this form to summarize seasonal habitat field transect data collected using methods outlined in this document.
- 2. Complete all location information at the top of the form. Information should be consistent with information on the field data forms. Most of the information should be self-explanatory except the following:

Population: Identify the population with which the habitat is associated. This definition also includes small populations. Population names are found in figure 3.

Home Range Name: Identify the home range area using a major drainage area or other distinguishing land feature (e.g., Little Lost River home range).

Seasonal Habitat: List the one season (breeding, summer, or winter) to which the data pertain. The same area may provide more than one seasonal habitat need, but data must be collected at the appropriate time of year for descriptions.

Associated Leks: List the two largest occupied leks to which the breeding habitat is associated. Use identification numbers or names that are used in the statewide database.

3. Complete the data section of the form:

Land Cover Type: Identify the land cover of the seasonal habitat being summarized.

Upland communities: Use plant alliances or associations (Reid et al. 2002) for sagebrush or grassland communities; use www.natureserve.org/explorer (International Classification of Ecological Communities) or other sampling strata to describe the habitat (e.g., percent sagebrush categories). Use the species symbol for dominant species in the overstory and understory (table B-1), for example ARTRW8 (alliance level — Wyoming big sagebrush) or ARTRW8/FEID (association level — Wyoming big sagebrush/Idaho fescue).

Riparian or wetland communities: Use site type (riparian areas, wet meadows, springs) or more detailed classification using Cowardin et al. (1979) or riparian type (regional classification systems) to which the data pertain.

Ecological Site: Refer to soil maps, range site guides, and ecological site descriptions where available and record the appropriate ecological site. Use the species symbol for dominant species in the overstory and understory.

Area or Length: Record the polygon area (indicating ha/ac) or linear length for riparian areas (indicating km/mi) of the habitat sampled (e.g., the land cover type).

Transects: Record the number of 50-m transects or sites measured within the land cover type. If transect length was adjusted due to polygon size or shape, annotate as needed.

Indicator Values: Record the mean or total numbers as indicated for each measurement (sagebrush cover, sagebrush height, sagebrush shape, perennial grass height, perennial forb height, perennial grass cover, perennial form cover, preferred forb species, and lek habitat distance to sage cover).

Sagebrush Height: Sagebrush height above ground for most seasons and above snow for winter habitat.

Predominant Sagebrush Shape: Estimate the number of spreading (S) or columnar (C) plants (see visual shape guide, figure 13).